

Free health care available to students

By Alice Albrecht
Whalesong Staff

Through the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, Section of Nursing ... (that's a big mouthful huh?) UAS offers affordable health care.

Katy Goodwin is employed by the State of Alaska to provide health care services at the UAS campus. Most services Goodwin offers are also available at the main Juneau Health Center, located a couple blocks past the hospital entrance at 3412 Glacier Hwy. Unlike the UAS center, which is for students, the main office is open to the public and students who spend more time downtown may find it more convenient.

Goodwin can provide family planning with pelvic exams, pregnancy tests, write prescriptions for birth control, including the morning-after pill, provide treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, and pre-natal care.

Goodwin administers tests and immunizations, such as tuberculosis (TB) screening. New university policies require students in housing to be current on certain immunizations, including a yearly TB screening.

Goodwin stated, "In the future I would like to see these requirements as part of the admission policy. Alaskan schools' (K-12) policy is 'no shots, no school!' Other universities and community colleges require proof of immunizations including TB be submitted with their application. Seventy-five percent of the new students in housing

arrived with no proof or requirements incomplete."

Ladies and gentlemen alike can make appointments for screening and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including AIDS testing. In the nine years



Katy Goodwin hard at work for students

that Goodwin has been at UAS she has only had one HIV test come back positive.

When asked about the kinds of cases she is seeing, Goodwin stated a variety of everything, but she stressed, "The human papilloma virus is a very bad STD to get. If left untreated, it can develop into cancer of the cervix, or cause warts on the external genitalia of men and women."

The only epidemic Goodwin has experienced was last year when four people came down with Chlamydia. "More people need to be using condoms," she stressed, "It's preventable. Chlamydia and gonorrhea can cause infertility by scarring the fallo-

pian tubes, and the treatment is so simple, a one-time dose of antibiotics."

Goodwin can also do routine tests for vision and hearing, hemoglobin, blood pressure, general health assessments and counseling, nutrition, height and weight, first-aid and general health concerns. Goodwin can also draw blood and take cultures to be sent to an Anchorage lab.

Outside the nurse's office is a first-aid station where you can help yourself to aspirin, ibuprofen, Tylenol, condoms and foam, Band-Aids and cough drops. "I have cold tablets, but I don't keep them out there. I don't want students masking the symptoms, when they should be in bed or getting treatment."

Goodwin stressed prevention. "When you start to feel like something is wrong, don't delay ... come in. I see these students come in here feeling awful and if they wait too long, there's only so much I can do for them. Students who don't come in

when they start to feel sick may end up paying a lot of money out of their pocket when they have to seek medical treatment with a doctor or the emergency room."

There is a health insurance policy available for students, underwritten by The Mega Life and Health Insurance Company of Dallas, Texas, and though payments are reasonable, there is a large deductible. You can find an envelope with information outside the nurse's receptionist's window and a number inside to call for further information.

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Senators are optimistic

By Seneca Theno
Whalesong Staff

Four new Student Government Senators begin their year of dedicated service this month. Three students, Joshua Reyes, Matthew Wood, and Mark Graves, ran for the five open seats in the Senate election. A fourth student, Tyler Bishop, was elected as a write-in candidate. Polls were located in the Maurant Building and at the Housing Lodge, and a total of 182 students voted. Reyes and Wood earned 26 percent of the vote

each, Graves won 19 percent, Bishop was awarded 16 percent of the vote, and the remainder 13 percent went to other write-in candidates.

In an e-mail interview, Wood and Graves both stated their purpose in running for Senator was to make UAS a better campus all-around, in regards to both students and the community. Wood, a junior in Business Administration, says, "By volunteering in our community and working with local businesses, Student Government

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An early gift from Winter blankets Auke Lake Monday afternoon

Photo by Seneca Theno

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Oct. 2000

Editorial



By Seneca Theno
Whalesong Editor-in-Chief

Change is in the air. Summer is definitely giving way to Fall, the heads of state are shifting positions, and there are changes happening at the *Whalesong*, too. There's a new look, a new layout, and a new attitude. As a staff, we're very excited about the possibilities—where we can take the paper. Mark your calendars, the *Whalesong* will be distributed every other Tuesday this year.

What is a student newspaper? First and foremost, despite its medium, it is an interactive tool. A paper only thrives and succeeds when it facilitates communication between all its audiences. So, we need your help. If you like what you see, tell us. If you hate what you see, tell us. If you have a story idea, share it. If you have a car to sell or a room to rent, let us "classify" it for you. If you just saw a great performance or finished a fantastic book, write us a review. If you're appalled at an editorial, or have your own opinion of a news story, write me a letter. If you wrote the year's best essay for your English class, or developed a truly amazing photo in your photography class, pass it along. By all means, if you want to say it, say it. We'll do the rest.

There are a multitude of ways you can contact the *Whalesong*:

- visit us online at www.uas.alaska.edu/whalesong/
- stop by our office in Mourant 102
- drop a note in our drop box outside the office door
- email us at jywhale@uas.alaska.edu
- call us at 465-6434
- fax us at 465-6399
- mail it to us at 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801.

It just doesn't get any easier! We do prefer submissions either by email or on a disk, but the most important thing is that we get them! Deadlines for all submissions are the Thursday prior to distribution Tuesday (Wednesday, for the week of Thanksgiving). We encourage you to submit rough drafts, hardcopy or otherwise, the Thursday preceding that.

The *Whalesong* can be as great as we all want it to be. It takes your participation and our commitment. Let's see where we can go!

Whalesong

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The University of Alaska Southeast student newspaper, *The Whalesong*, is a bi-weekly publication with a circulation of 1000 copies per issue. The *Whalesong's* primary audience includes students, faculty, staff, and community members. The *Whalesong* will strive to inform and entertain its readers, analyze and provide commentary on the news, and serve as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas. The staff of *The Whalesong* values freedom of expression and encourages reader response.

The *Whalesong* editorial staff assumes no responsibility for the content of material. The views and opinions contained in this paper in no way represent the University of Alaska and reflect only those of the author(s).

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Student Government welcomes you to UAS

Student Government, otherwise known as United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast at the Juneau campus (USUAS-JC) is a student-run, student-led organization. This group accomplishes campus-wide goals as well as state-wide initiatives. We lobby the legislature to get funding for the University. We organize political forums like candidate debates and our annual Legislative Affairs Conference in February. We also hold dances and other events at the SAC. We sit on committees within UAS and let the administration know how students feel about important issues such as tuition and fees, implementing minors and majors into the academic curriculum, and even who to hire! Students at UAS are influential and valuable. The administration wants to know our opinions and as your representatives, we give them our opinions. However, we need your help. If there is an issue you need help resolving or an action you think would benefit the University, talk to one of your Student Government Representatives. While we might not be able to immediately solve your problem, or even fully agree with you, we can direct you to the appropriate person to talk to or give you helpful advice in solving the problem. In some cases we can take your issue on completely but we always need your help in implementation. Talk to one of your representatives today!

Senators: Joshua Reyes
Kathryn Currit
Shannon Kempton
Mark Graves
Matthew Wood
Tyler Bishop

Vice President: Amber Timothy

President: Tia Anderson

Our next Meeting time is Friday October 6, 2000 from 10:00AM-Noon in the Student Government Conference Room.

There will be a Special Election for the last remaining Student Body Senator. If you wish to run, talk to Iris Cortez directly across from the Bookstore.

The SAC Climbing Wall is brought to you by Student Government and a matching MAPCO grant. Enjoy!

Respectfully Yours,
Tia Anderson

... health center continued from page 1

Last year the university implemented a \$10 fee for all appointments; after a drastic drop in appointments, the fees were suspended and appointments were again provided free.

Goodwin keeps current on all her licensing demands, including her Advanced Practitioner Nurse License, RN license, nurse midwifery certifications, and maintaining her continued education units so she can have lab, x-ray and sonogram privileges at Bartlett Hospital.

Goodwin's office is located on the 2nd floor of the Novatney Building, and her hours are:

- Monday 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday CLOSED
 - Wednesday 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (family planning)
 - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
 - (HIV testing, Hepatitis B&C, Syphilis—Thursdays and Fridays)
- Call 465-6439 to make an appointment.

On Campus

Online Student Services Expand

By Lori Exferd
Whalesong Contributor

UAS is expanding its online services to students! At <http://students.alaska.edu>, a variety of student services are now being offered:

- Σ Unofficial academic transcript
- Σ Final grades for each semester
- Σ Holds placed on your account
- Σ Account summary
- Σ Your current personal information (address, etc)

If you've ever used phone registration, the format for this web site is very similar. All you need is your social security number and your PIN (your birth date) to access the information. You can access this site by using the web address, or going through the "For Students" section off the UAS homepage.

This site will grow! The University of Alaska is working on adding web registration and add/drop services, fee payment via the web; and eventually admissions online. Services for faculty and staff will also be added in the future.

Student club starts the year off with big goals

By Meredith Wallis
Whalesong Contributor

New to UAS this semester is a club dedicated entirely to the arrows and triangle. We all know, and to the motto "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle." The Environmental Club that has existed on campus in the past has renamed itself to reflect the primary goal of its members—the desire to establish a functional and reliable recycling program at UAS.

According to a 1996 study done by the Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. residents, businesses, and institutions generate more than 209 million tons of garbage a year. That means that each individual in this country produces approximately 4.3 pounds of waste every day! The most effective way to combat these numbers is known as source reduction or waste prevention, wherein people essentially throw less away. Methods of source reduction include reusing containers, composting, buying in bulk to reduce packaging, or any other act that results in sending fewer materials off to landfills and incinerators. Recycling serves as the second most effective way to conserve resources and eliminate waste.

In the past, the Environmental Club has attempted to recycle on campus, but has experienced limited success due to lack of interest, financial difficulties, and attempts to address more than one project at a time. Other projects included last semester's Litter Free day, a roadside clean-up program. In order to be more successful this semester, the club's members have decided to focus the whole of their energy on the objective of recycling.

The club aspires to set up recycling receptacles both at student housing and on campus in order to minimize the amount of waste generated by the UAS population. Eventually, the club hopes to recycle plastic, glass, aluminum, tin, and paper. The materials, gathered in the designated receptacles, will be collected by club members and transported to the appropriate facilities for processing.

Another possibility on the semester's agenda involves a cup program. Students, staff, and faculty would have the opportunity to purchase a reusable plastic cup to use at Spike's, the cafeteria, or other places around town. In exchange for their commitment to the environment, they would receive a small discount on each beverage they purchased on campus.

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An Evening with Shakespeare

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6 • SAC
FREE TO MEMBERS • \$5 GENERAL ADMISSION

4:00 pm Film: Much Ado About Nothing

5-7:00 pm No Host Dinner, Stew in Bread Bowls (may be charged to meal plan)

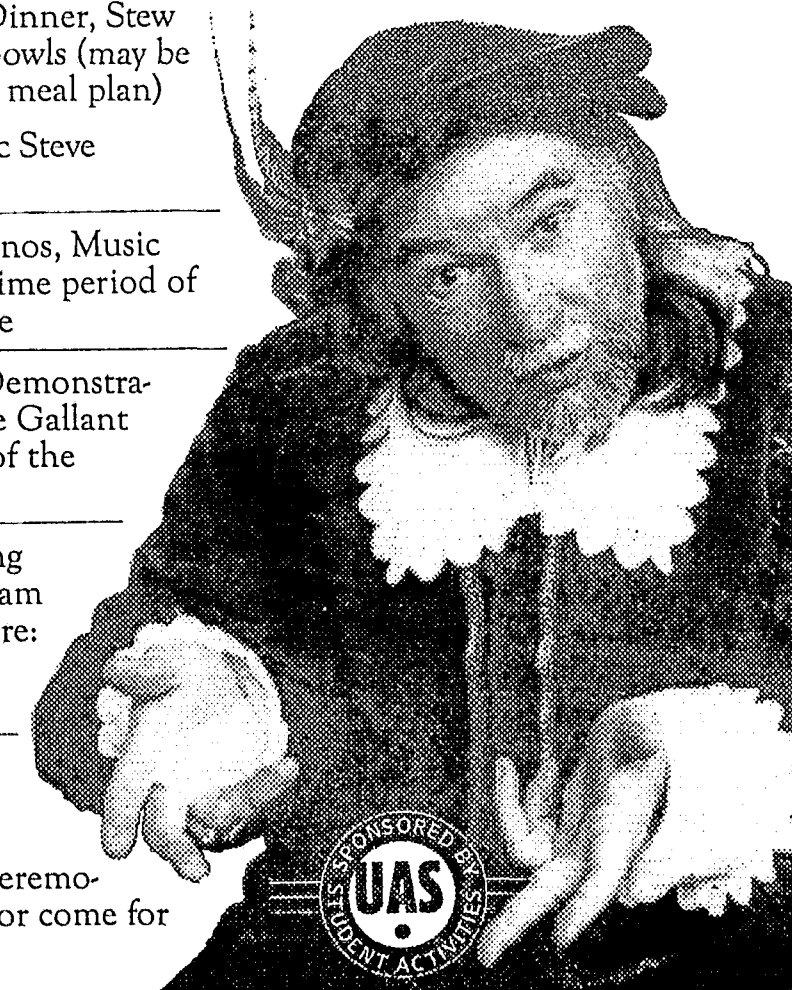
6:00 pm Lute Music Steve Bodner

7:00 pm The Dominos, Music from the time period of Shakespeare

7:45 pm Fighting Demonstration by the Gallant Warriors of the SCA

8:00 pm An Evening with William Shakespeare: The Sonnets

Actor Rod Molzahn presents The Sonnets and will be the evening's Master of Ceremonies. Come for some or come for all, same price!



Latin Rhythms

ANB Hall
Friday, October 13
9:00 p.m.
All age event

- Refreshments
- No host bar (21+)
- Dance lessons 9-9:30 pm

\$15 General Admission
\$7 UAS Students and Alumni w/ID
Kids under 10 free



Special Guest
Julio Cabrera

Sponsored by the University of Alaska Southeast. UAS is an AA/STO educational institution.

New legislation aims to protect students from scams

By Billy O'Keefe
TMS Campus, Associated Press

Congress has given the green light to a bill allowing the federal government to crack down on companies that have scammed students through false promises of non-existent grants and scholarship funds.

Passed last November by the Senate and expected to receive President Clinton's approval, the College Scholarship Prevention Act of 1999 would allow the government to pursue criminal charges as well as civil damages against companies offering fraudulent services.

"Scholarships, grant aid, student loans and other forms of financial assistance have long assisted our nation's college students in pursuing a postsecondary education," said Rep. William Goodling (R-Pa.). "Unfortunately, not all scholarship offers are legitimate. Phony

scholarship offerings, scams and other fraudulent offerings do great harm to our nation's students who are searching for ways to help pay the ever-increasing costs of a college education."

Rep. Dale Kildee (D-Mich.) noted that fraudulent scholarships and grants rob roughly 350,000 students and their families of more than \$5 million a year.

"Often these fraudulent companies guarantee scholarships in exchange for an advanced fee," he said. "Other times they trick students into divulging their checking account numbers and access their accounts without their consent."

The passage of the bill is owed at least in part to the Federal Trade Commission's "Project ScholarScam," instituted in the fall of 1996 and designed to penalize companies caught scamming students.

But while the FTC can punish fraudulent companies through civil damages and by disallowing telemarketing rights and scholarship service rights, it does not possess the power to prosecute the companies for what, as most victims would argue without hesitation, are criminal acts.

"Tough penalties are needed for these scam artists," said Federal Trade Commissioner Sheila F. Anthony. "The civil remedies afforded by an FTC action can deprive defendants of their ill-gotten gain through restitution, but only if the victims' money can be found. The penalties resulting from criminal prosecutions by the U.S. Department of Justice and state authorities send the strongest possible message."

"Our political system depends on an educated citizenry who are able to make informed decisions," said Rep. Fred Upton (R-Mich.), who

sponsored the bill. "It is clear that what this bill will do is in fact provide protection for the most vulnerable members of our community, needy students and their families, more than ever before."

The act also requires the Department of Education, in conjunction with the FTC, to establish an online directory of legitimate scholarship resources, so that students and their families can avoid trouble in the first place. The site would also provide visitors with information about (and names of) fraudulent companies, as well as allow students and parents to share their own experiences, for better or worse.

According to the College Board, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to informing and inspiring would-be college students, students collected an estimated \$64.1 billion in scholarships, grants, loans, and aid for the 1998-99 academic year.

UAS freshmen enrollment up 50 percent

By Amber Timothy
Whalesong Staff

After a 20-year hiatus from school, Sidney Fadaoff is taking eight credits at night this semester, while also tackling the responsibilities of her full-time job and family.

First-year freshman Brandon Larson, who hails from Everett, Washington, is a full-time student hoping to earn a bachelor's degree in Business.

A small sampling of the diverse population of people attending classes, these are two of the 1,942 students enrolled at the University of Alaska Southeast this Fall semester. The nearly 2,000 students include 615 full-time and 1,327 part-time students, dispersed between 1,880 undergraduates and 62 graduate students, according to registrar Lori Exferd.

The comparatively large number of part-time to full-time students presents unique challenges to UAS, said Dean of Students Bruce Gifford.

"It has to be a real balancing act," he said. "It's been a challenge for us to continue to grow that full-time student population but at the same time maintain enough services to attract the part-time."

Gifford said that because the University is focusing on attracting more full-time students, many part-time students have felt the heat.

"We have moved more classes to the day-time, we have done some things that tended to flatten out that part-time enrollment," he said. "Part-timers probably would say we don't have enough classes at night."

Sidney Fadaoff would certainly agree. A paralegal for a Juneau law firm, Fadaoff is taking two one-night-a-week classes to bring her closer to her Bachelor in Liberal Arts degree. But it's been harder than she expected. "The problem I've run in to with some of my GERs (General Education Requirements) is that they're not offered at night, and I have a full-time job," she said.

Fadaoff, who is married and has a 16-year-old daughter, isn't sure how she'll overcome these roadblocks, but she remains determined to get her degree "before I'm unemployable," she said. "I hope my daughter won't wait as long as I did to finish school," Fadaoff said. "My word to the wise is get that degree out of the way while you're still young."

Happily, many students are heeding her advice. UAS has seen a 50 percent increase in the number of its first-year freshmen, from 92 in 1999 to 139 this year, due in large part to a stepping-up of recruitment techniques.

The number of choices in school for out-of-state students is huge, "so for them to come here, they've got to know about us, number one, and the way we do it is purchase names from ACT/SAT," Gifford relates.

When students take the ACT or SAT test, their names are put on a list that can be purchased by universities. The list also shows student scores, as well as types of degrees they're interested in. "We buy names like that from certain states we've known to be good for us," primarily Pacific Northwest states such as Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California.

The University has increased the number of names it's purchased. "The other thing is we're actively working on updating our website because a lot of students find us by the web. We've made a pretty significant investment in the web because we know that's a core piece in our marketing campaign."

Gifford also recognizes the value of part-time students. "The challenge is always to remember the part-time student, because you have the full-time students here all the time...The challenge is to remember that there is a student that comes out maybe and takes one class one night a week and is gone, so sometimes the decisions that we make are made more with the full-time student in mind than the part-time student. For the most part, a part-time student comes on campus, goes to class, goes home, primarily because they have families and they have jobs - their life is someplace else, so their effect on services is much less than the full-time student. That's the real challenge to remember that there are two-thirds of the student body who are here taking maybe only one class."

What about classes? "Part-timers probably would say we don't have enough classes at night. Part-timers would say they may not be real happy with the University, but what we're trying to do is, we're trying to deliberately grow the full-time student population. That's very important to us as far as being able to offer additional programs and classes. That's really where we're going to have the most growth. But the challenge again is to not just all of a sudden chop off this part-time student population."

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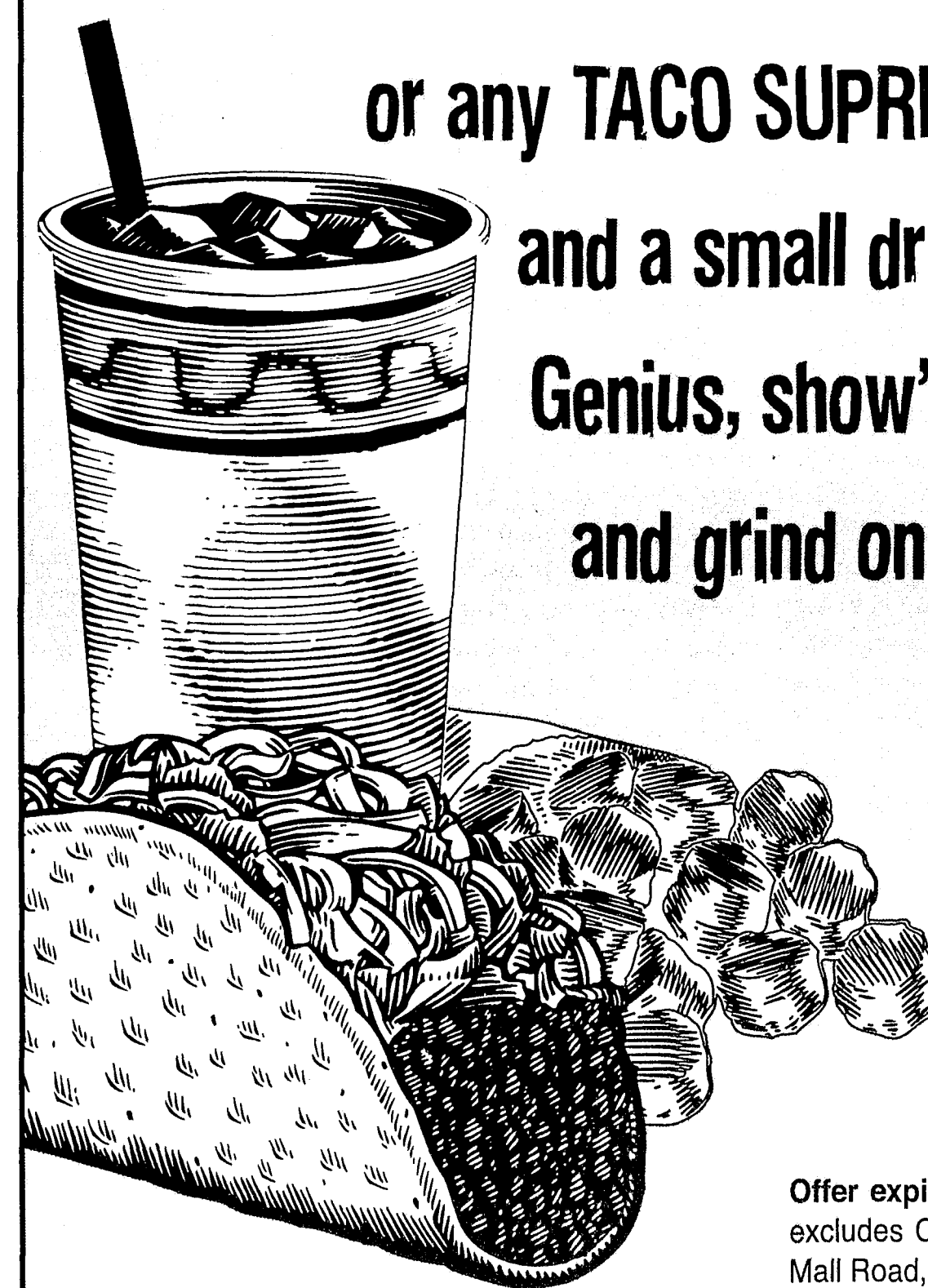
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Genius, show'em your student ID

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Focus

Harambee "Let's Pull Together"

By Alice Albrecht
Whalesong Staff

"It takes a village to raise a child," did not originate with Hillary Clinton; it is a famous African saying. To Grace Kuto, it's the story of her life. As a result of being orphaned in her native Kenya at the age of eight, Kuto and her siblings were indeed raised by her village.

"Before going to bed each night, I played a game of counting my family of 16-20, consisting of aunts and uncles, my own brothers and sisters and many cousins, whom I considered brothers and sisters."

Kuto was the first in a series of speakers and events that the Global Connections Club sponsors each Friday, during the lunch hour in the Mourant Student Lounge.

Through her fund-raising efforts, Kuto is giving back to her village and to many others in her country as well.

While attendees feasted on the African version of a donut, *Mandazi*, Kuto took us back to her roots in Kenya, Africa.

Attending school in her native country, Kuto related, "In Kenya you took tests before entering 8th grade and if you didn't pass, your education stopped there. You took another test before the 12th grade and if you didn't pass your education stopped there." Kuto explained that things are starting to change in their educational system and people who flunk either of these two tests are now being given the opportunity to take them again.

After finishing high school in Kenya, Kuto journeyed to London, England to attend college. After finishing her schooling in London, and at her brother-in-law's insistence that America was the place to go for a higher education, she embarked on her journey to America, moving to Portland, Ore.

Kuto's first year in America was dreadful, culturally. She related how she wrote home to her village pleading for her brother-in-law to please send her a ticket, so she could come home. But, when she received letters from home, there was no ticket, in fact there was no mention at all of her desire to return home to Kenya.

Kuto suffered culture shock in the beginning. "I was so frustrated at the way Americans did some things and in frustration would often utter, 'what is wrong with the African way?'"

"In Africa, pets stayed outside. Cats wandered in and out periodically, but dogs never came indoors!"

Kuto related how she had to adjust to the sponsor's pet poodle that insisted she sleep on her bed and would scratch at the door until Kuto finally let her in. In another instance, Kuto became very upset with the daughter of her sponsor, when she caught her washing the poodle in the kitchen sink.

Kuto explained, "I cooked in the kitchen, I used that sink for food preparation...a dog has no business being in the sink..."

At the end of her first year at Portland State, Kuto took a class entitled "Intercultural Communication Problems" and began understanding the different *but not wrong*, American way of life. In 1980, Kuto became a member of the World Affairs Council where she began speaking at schools and

sharing her culture.

Kuto married, got pregnant, but suffered from toxemia, so she and her husband remained in the United States based on medical need. Kuto came close to death three times. She lost her first baby at eight months pregnancy and her first daughter was born after seven months of great difficulty, her second daughter after 6 months. The two babies had very difficult births and required extensive hospitalization, especially the youngest who couldn't swallow and required respiration treatment for a year. Now a generation

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Photo by Scott Foster
Grace Kuto spoke for the UAS Global Connections club, as well as the Juneau World Affairs Council last week

Summer...What Summer?

Why Lola is relieved the semester has started

By Lola Granola
Whalesong Contributor

When I arrived here in Juneau in January (in my huge The North Face jacket) with the snot freezing to my face, I kept hearing the same thing from everyone. "Wait until the summer here, you will love it!" Therefore, being the skeptic that everyone knows and loves, I decided that I would look forward to it with great reservation. Especially considering it got so cold out that my poor puppy did not even want to go out to do her business! (Keep in mind I am from California so "cold" to me is like forty degrees). Eventually summer did arrive, at least I thought it was summer, and I felt that I would finally defrost. Let me just say that summer in Alaska is not really summer to me...the idea of summer to me is warm evenings on my backyard deck with a cool glass of wine, watching the sun go down in the valley behind our house. Weekends we spend by the pool or on the lake, and occasionally I would take the hour drive in my convertible to the beach. Yes, according to most Alaskan's it was too hot. One-hundred degrees in the shade maybe on a bad day, but that is when you crank on the central air and drink lots of lemonade! (I was rather hoping to get a taste of home here.) My summer experience in Juneau was far from the laid back romantic picture I just painted of life in the suburbs. Instead it

was exciting at times and crazy at others.

For starters, like a maniac I took nine credits here at the university. All upper division (NUTS!) and though the teachers were great, this, combined with my job at the Student Activities Center and Student Activities office, left very little time for sleep let alone seeing my husband! There were about five or six sunny days while I was in school and only one of my professors decided to venture outdoors with us. I saw the sun, and when there were no clouds and no rain, it was amazing. The three hours a night of sleep I did get seemed to be enough to get me through, though at times friends seemed to think I was heavily medicated (I probably should have been)! This all ended in July when I finished my classes and was able to take a deep breath. The fourth of July almost felt like California; I even got sunburned. However, because of the whole "sun up all the time" thing we watched the fireworks the night before the parade, etc. That was weird. In fact, when I actually was able to sleep, I had a hard time with the "light when I go to bed and light when I wake up" phenomenon. I suppose the satin sleeping mask helped, but I ended up scaring the hubby on occasion when I wore it! Now don't get me wrong, I am not complaining...I think that the sun could stay up

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Focus



Photo by Alice Albrecht
Iris Cortes spoke to students Friday in the Mourant Student Lounge as part of the Global Connections weekly speakers series

UAS attracts students and staff from Latin America

By Whalesong staff

After growing up in Puerto Rico and then moving 11 times during nearly 20 years of marriage to a Coast Guard serviceman (a Puerto Rican born and raised in New York), Iris Cortes and her family have settled into Juneau. She has settled even more specifically into the desk at the bottom of the stairs in the Mourant Building. She probably took the picture for your student I.D.

Student Josh Reyes took a slightly more direct route- moving from the Dominican Republic to Anchorage where he has family, then coming here for the quieter atmosphere.

The Cortes family also chose to come here. Out of eight possibilities, Juneau was the family's first choice of where to live. The Coast Guard's paying for it made it possible. Iris is happy with the choice, but allowing: "I like Juneau, but I don't like all the rain." Josh concurs, saying "Juneau is great. It fits me right for the moment."

He describes the climate of the Dominican Republic as hot, tropical, full of fresh fruit and palm trees, and full of beaches.

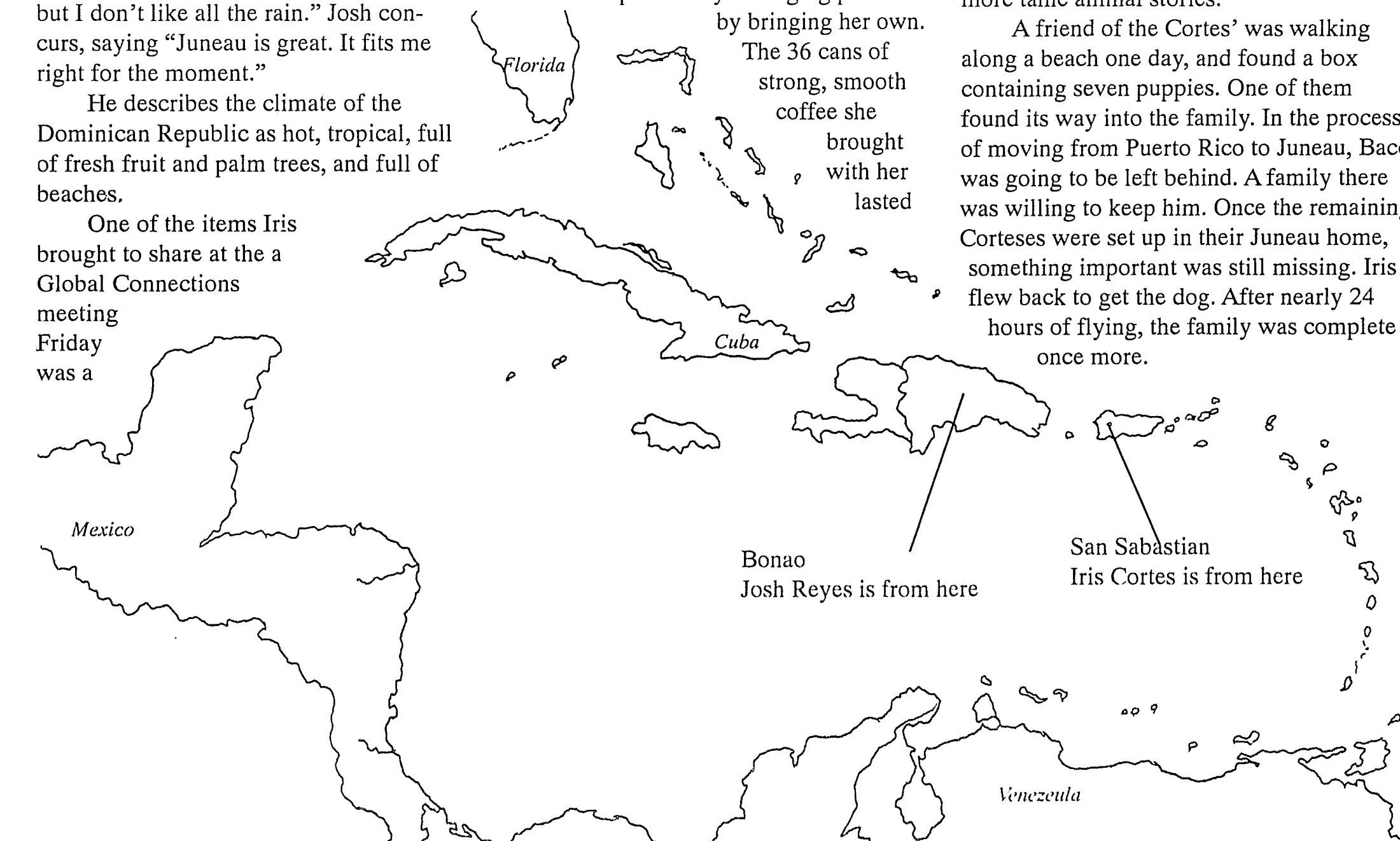
One of the items Iris brought to share at the a Global Connections meeting Friday was a

hammock. "There are hundreds of beaches in Puerto Rico. When everyone heads to the beach you take your hammock with you and you string it between two of the many coconut trees that line the beach."

Their previous home was also near a university. They were a 10-minute walk from the University of Puerto Rico, so Iris went back to school. After re-learning how to think about biology and grammar terms, and surviving math, she graduated with good grades. She is now Administrative Secretary for Student Activities and Housing here at UAS.

Iris has been impressed with the accessibility of items one might not expect in a small, isolated town. Music and seasonings are all on hand, at least in some supply. After living 10 minutes away from one of the world's top three coffee-producing areas, she has not had the same luck finding good coffee here. Iris solves the potentially damaging problem by bringing her own.

The 36 cans of strong, smooth coffee she brought with her lasted



for about 10 months. She expects her current stash to last until spring. That should be something to brighten up the dark winter she isn't looking forward to.

A collection of photos Iris displayed were very colorful and made many in the audience envious of growing up in such a beautiful area of the world.

"In Puerto Rico we have lots of color. Besides the flowers, it's not uncommon to see green and pink houses or yellow and blue ones."

Her family's language ability also carries a certain amount of color. Their 17 and 11-year-old children speak English as their first language, but are fluent in Spanish as well. This allows them to communicate with their cousins and grandparents, as well as increasing cultural identity.

The family has taken on a new cultural twist by hosting a 16-year-old exchange student from Germany.

Iris fondly recalled the Puerto Rican culture. "Puerto Ricans do everything loud and we don't do anything without music." Iris presented a pair of wooden sticks, *los balos*. "If you want to join a crowd in celebration and you don't have an instrument, you can grab a pair of sticks and join in." Josh describes the pulse of the Dominican Republic to follow a *marengue* beat. "It is pumping from morning to night."

Iris displayed a number of items from her home including the old Puerto Rican version of *Tupperware*; a bowl made out of a gourd. Gourds were used for serving in the past, but now they are painted and used as art. When Iris turned the bowl over it displayed a beautifully painted rooster on the back. "I have lots of roosters in my house—my father used to raise chickens."

With regards to fighting cocks, Iris stated, "Roosters who live in the wild will fight, it's instinct, they don't have to be taught to fight." The Cortes family also tells more tame animal stories.

A friend of the Cortes' was walking along a beach one day, and found a box containing seven puppies. One of them found its way into the family. In the process of moving from Puerto Rico to Juneau, Baco was going to be left behind. A family there was willing to keep him. Once the remaining Corteses were set up in their Juneau home, something important was still missing. Iris flew back to get the dog. After nearly 24 hours of flying, the family was complete once more.

Court rejects Exxon Valdez appeal

By Laurie Asseo
Associated Press Writer

Washington — The Supreme Court refused to free Exxon Mobil Corp. from having to pay \$5 billion in damages for the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska, the nation's worst ever.

The nation's highest court, acting without comment Monday, let stand the awardstemming from the tanker spill that polluted more than 1,000 miles of shoreline, killed tens of thousands of birds and marine mammals and disrupted fishing.

The oil company still has a variety of other appeals pending, and the high court action does not obligate the company to pay anything right away, said company spokesman Tom Cirigliano.

In this appeal, lawyers for Exxon Mobil had urged the justices to throw out the punitive-damages award on grounds of irregularities during jury deliberations.

"We're not even close," to the end of the case, Cirigliano

said. "This doesn't have any effect whatsoever on us having to pay the \$5 billion."

The Exxon order was among dozens released by the court on the first day of its new term. Among the highlights:

-The court refused to block the marketing of a generic chewing gum to help smokers give up cigarettes, rejecting an appeal in which the manufacturer of Nicorette gum said the marketing violated its copyright.

-It turned aside the argument of a Kansas youth suspended from school for three days after he drew a picture of a Confederate flag. Attorneys for seventh-grader T.J. West had maintained that the disciplinary action violated his constitutionally protected free-speech rights.

-The court refused to throw out a lawsuit in which actors George Wendt and John Ratzemberger, who played endearing barflies in the "Cheers" television show, say two robots stole their old act.

-It refused to allow some 30 members of Congress to sue President Clinton for ordering

the military to join last year's NATO bombing of Yugoslavia. The lawmakers had argued that Clinton violated the War Powers Act of 1973.

-The high court refused to reinstate the California fraud convictions of financier Charles Keating, who became a symbol of the savings and loan scandals of the 1980s.

-The court rejected the appeal of a married couple who say they were sexually harassed at work by the same supervisor, letting stand a ruling that said a key federal law does not apply to bisexuals who harass others.

In one of several challenges to the \$5 billion award imposed by a federal jury in 1994, Exxon Mobil attacked the behavior of Don Warrick, a court bailiff who escorted the jury and served food to its members during five months of trial and deliberations in Anchorage.

Warrick admitted that in a conversation with one of the Exxon Valdez trial jurors he pulled out his gun and removed one of its bullets before saying another juror — one

holding out against making a punitive-damages award — should be put "out of her misery."

Warrick, who said he was only joking, was fired. He died in 1996.

But U.S. District Judge H. Russel Holland refused to order a new punitive-damages trial, ruling that the holdout juror had not known during the deliberations about Warrick's comment.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld his ruling last March, calling the bailiff's comment to a juror "a strikingly tasteless joke" that targeted a juror who had been conspicuously emotional. But it said the comment did not require "a rebuttable presumption of prejudice" because it was not aimed at the holdout juror.

In the appeal acted on Monday, Exxon Mobil's lawyers argued that such a presumption should exist.

The Exxon Valdez hit a charted reef in Prince William Sound in March 1989 and spilled 11 million gallons of Alaska crude oil.

The case is Exxon Mobil Corp. v. Baker, 00-90.

UFOs a system-wide problem

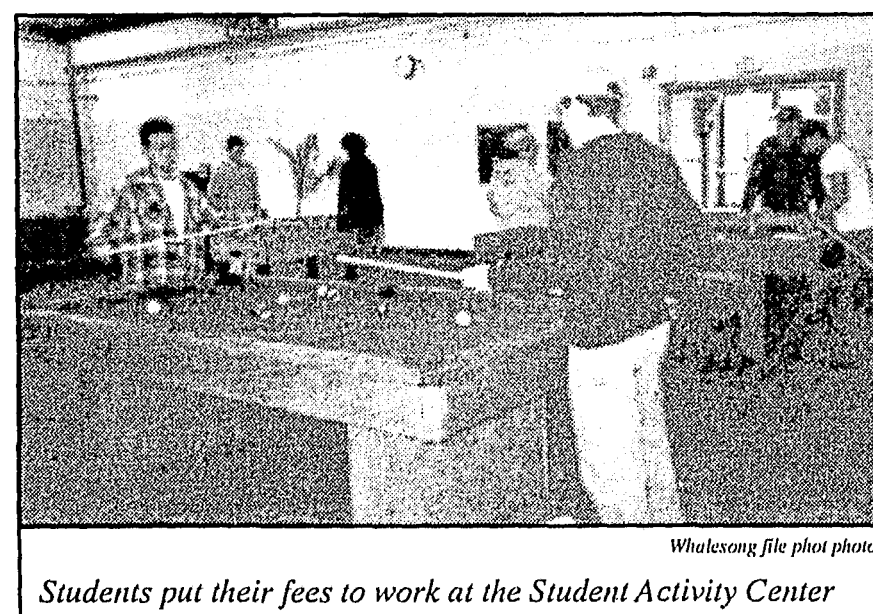
By Whalesong Staff with Chris Flanagan

Unidentified fee obligations in tuition bill often take students by surprise. Answering student concerns, both University of Alaska Administration and the Coalition of Student Leaders are conducting across-the-board reevaluations of rising student fees at the University of Alaska.

During the months of October and November, two committees, one composed of top-level Administration and another made up of student leaders, will meet separately to evaluate the structure and direction of student fees.

While students experience modest increases in tuition as they advance toward more expensive upper division and graduate courses, this isn't the problem. Nor are housing, transportation, or personal expenses the problem, as these differ with every student. The University of Alaska's preliminary analysis concluded that tuition alone is also not the problem; in fact, tuition at any U of A school is still several hundred dollars below the national average. However, the analysis did conclude that student fees, those little-

understood add-ons over and above basic tuition, may be compounding faster than is necessary. While meeting with University Regents in February, President Mark Hamilton confided course fees were out of control, saying, "...it's the fees we have to



Students put their fees to work at the Student Activity Center

get a handle on. We need to tighten the screws terribly on how we get new fees."

One of the questions the two committees will address in their meetings is why was this or that particular fee instituted in the first place?

An e-mail from administrator Jim Lynch, Associate Vice President of Finance, indicates part of the problem is that the

recipient of these fees goes unpublished. He says, "We don't adequately explain the purpose of the fee...what the fee pays for...it would be helpful to know what instructional and support cost should be included in and borne broadly by all students... (and) what costs should be charged as direct fees to students to place the charge with the individuals who benefit the most from expenditures..."

The confusion about the origin and purpose of fees leads some students, like John Ashcraft, Associated Students of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks Senator, to wonder. "Course fees were added originally as a way for departments to get a little extra funding and they didn't necessarily correspond to specific course related costs," Ashcraft speculates. "For example, at UAF my English 211 class had a \$10 course fee that the instructor was entirely unaware of...Fees were unregulated; it made it difficult for students to plan their education," he adds.

The committees' reevaluation of fees should help to clear up some of the confusion. Distinguishing teacher-initiated class fees, department resource fees, and general

... continued on page 9

Kuto continued from page 6

later, her two daughters have grown into healthy 17 and 21-year-old girls who are gifted musicians that have both traveled to Europe with the Portland Metropolitan Youth Symphony.

In 1995, Kuto wrote a story cookbook *Harambee! Africa Family Circle Cookbook*.

The book combines recipes with stories of her native Kenya. (Harambee means "Let's pull together") Kuto uses the book as the center for fund raising events where she cooks traditional foods and provides cooking volunteers with traditional dress to wear at the event.

In the spirit of giving back, Kuto organized funds and resources to put textbooks and library books into a 40-foot container van and had them shipped to Teremi High School in Kenya for a community library. The book were old ones the Oregon school district was going to shred.

When Kuto discovered old computers were going to be surplus as well, she organized another van to take the computers to Vihiga High School in Kenya.

Kuto stated that in Kenya there really aren't libraries and in the rural areas there are no textbooks. As a result of the one school receiving the books, and the other computers, the one high school has become number one in Kenya academically and the other for computer skills and learning, surpassing even the high schools in large urban areas.

Kuto explained that in Kenya, each tribe has its own dialect and many sub-tribes have even more dialects. Most students know three languages fluently and probably more. While Swahili is the national language, English is the number one business language, so the demand for English books and literature is great.

Kuto related how she visits a village, where she listens to the villagers needs and through her contacts and fund raising efforts will try and help that village achieve that need.

In August, Kuto and eight volunteers journeyed to her own village, where they put

the finishing touches on a medical clinic. In collaboration with the Northwest Medical team, Kuto has another 40-foot container heading to her village in October with medical supplies, including solar power equipment for the clinic that will serve 10,000 families.

The first phase of the clinic will be to provide preventative health care for water borne diseases such as malaria, typhoid, infections from colds, and primary care for diabetes, immunizations, HIV/AIDS prevention and general dental.

Kuto stated that on her last trip to Kenya, she could spot people with HIV/AIDS and she'd ask villagers what they thought of a particular person's health. As a result of not recognizing a threat, the individual could continue to spread the disease through the village without anyone being the wiser. Once established, phase two of the clinic will be to try and get a resident doctor on-site.

Kuto stressed that they start the projects, but the community has to take over the administration and growth of the project, so Kuto is free to continue providing services and incentives to other communities.

If you'd like to check out the Harambee House web page, the address is www.Harambee-house.org. If you'd like to write Kuto directly, her email address is Kuto@teleport.com.

Grace Kuto came to America to get an education that wasn't available in her native Kenya. As a result, she has gained an education to help her homeland.

What will you give back to your community when you finish school? Will you bring profession medical care to your community? Will you create new business ventures to employ others? Many of you are from smaller Alaskan villages who rely on Juneau, Ketchikan or larger cities for your goods and services. What can you give back to your community once you've gained your education?

Invest in your future...don't wait for things to happen...make them happen!

...UFOs continued from page 8

campus fees may allow the process to go back-to-basics. The University of Alaska, Anchorage and University of Alaska, Southeast may choose to follow the recent example of UAF, where last year after fielding similar concerns charging too-expensive and out-dated student and material fees, Chancellor Marshal Lind lowered some and cut out other fees altogether.

A breakdown of student fees at UAS:

-Student Governance Fee: 1 credit \$8, 2 credits \$11, 3+ credits, \$23

This fee supports the activities of student representatives to their campus, their community and the UA system. Some examples of things Student Government does: they operate vending machines on campus, sponsor art and entertainment events, provide televisions in the Maurant building, baby-changing stations, designate computer stations, regulate the formation of student clubs, organize recreational opportunities like hiking, picnics, and discounts to Eaglecrest Ski Area.

-Student Government Publication Fee: \$3

This fee supports the cost of staffing and producing the student newspaper, Whalesong.

-Technology Fee: \$5 per credit, maximum \$60

The money generated by this fee is regulated by the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Roundtable (TLTR). They provide and maintain hardware, software, internet access, database subscriptions, CD-ROMs, and lab support. The TLTR also supports the Media Services Lab in the basement of Egan Library, where students can use advanced audio, video, and digital systems technologies to do such things as make movies or record personalized CDs.

-Student Union Fee: \$100 (automatic for 7+ credits, optional otherwise)

The Student Activities Center, funded by this fee, is a multi-use facility just North of Dehart's and next door to Chan's Thai Kitchen open to students, Staff, Faculty, and the community. Members can climb the rock wall, take aerobic or Yoga classes, shower, rent recreational equipment such as kayaks and climbing or camping equipment, eat snacks and play games. The SAC also has computers and internet access, cable TV and VCR, a sound system that can support movies, lectures, dances and DJs, and other live entertainment.

When it comes to student fees, students have the right to question and voice opinion on the purpose, amount, and use of such fees. Representatives from all committees that disperse money generated by fees welcome the input of students.

University of Alaska Statewide

LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM January-May, 2001

For information and application materials at UAS contact:

Clive Thomas
465-5381/6505

or

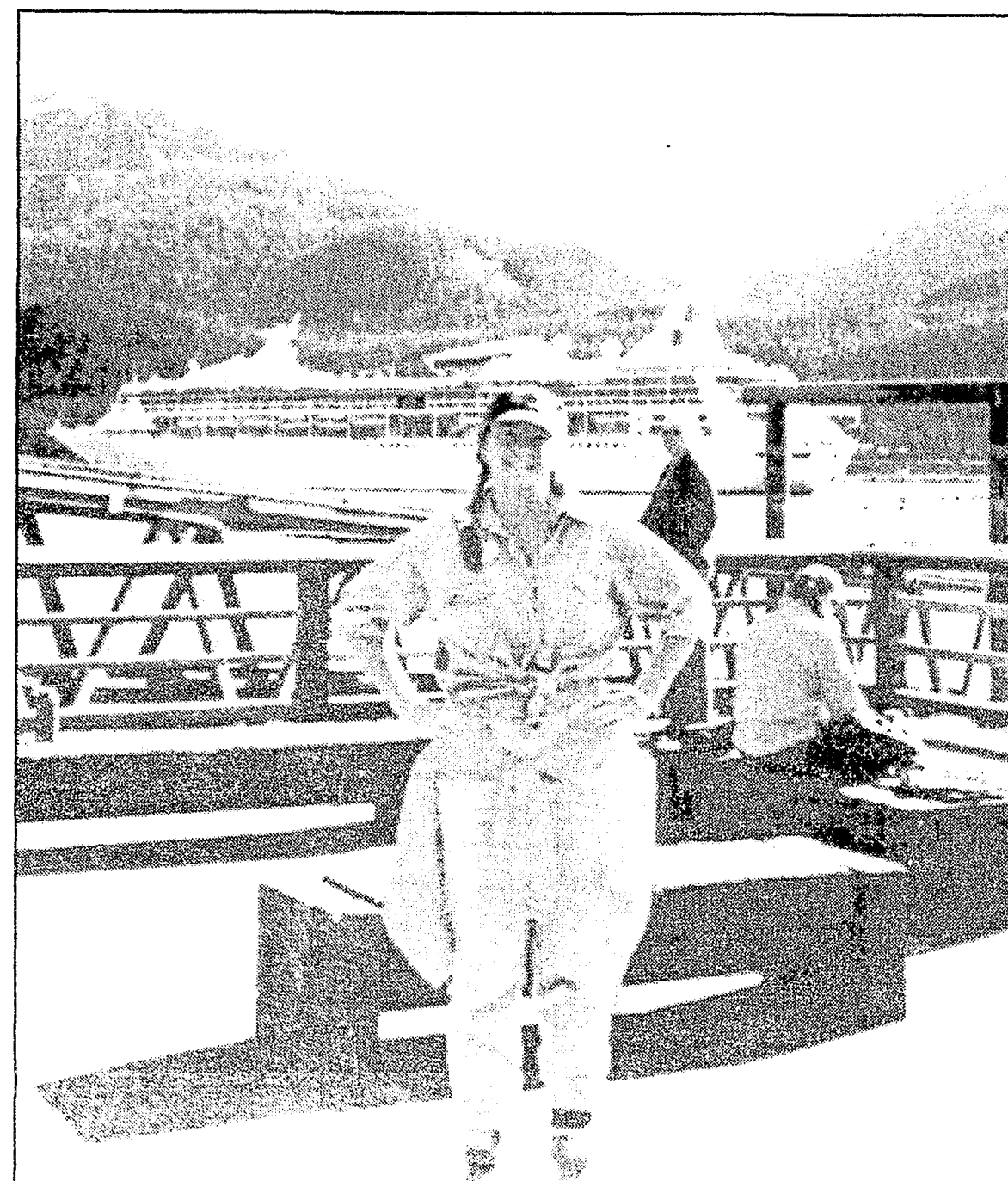
Jonathan Anderson
465-6356/6402

**Application deadline:
Noon, Tuesday October 17, 2000**

...continued from page 6

all the time, if it would just stick around.

Around about the time I was getting adjusted to the rain and sun issue, if that is possible, I was approached by a friend who needed help down on the docks working with the tourists. I decided to go for it since I wanted to get the full "student experience" while I am still in school. So I took the barley above minimum wage and headed down to the cruise ship terminal to become the "Vanna White" of the Juneau docks. The people who work the docks are tough cookies! They are there everyday regardless,



Lola stands up with hands on hips, greeting tourists from the cruise ships

fourth of July, hiking with Kim Porter, the climbing wall when it rained, and a big four wheel drive vehicle that made me feel safe in the never ending rain showers! I never left town, or had a real summer break, but then, once you grow up (or like me pretend to grow up) and leave school the summer breaks get shorter, and the scenery will always change. Even if you're not like me and have lived here your whole life, I bet somewhere buried in Juneau is a summer adventure that you've never had. Summer is what you make of it I suppose, and like everything I have taken on here in Juneau, it was full of adventures that I am sure I will miss when I leave.

...senators continued from page 1

can learn from the local environment what to advocate to help ease the education process..." Wood also intends to instigate a campus-wide recycling program, start childcare on campus to assist student parents, and "see the overall awareness of student government increase to the general populous."

Graves, a transfer student from Anchorage in his second year in Business Management, is optimistic about the year, "I think the people involved in student government here are one of the best groups to be working with and I look forward to a productive, as well as fun year." Graves is eager to "get involved in the UAS campus," and has "aspirations of being in the political arena one day."

Reyes and Bishop were unavailable for comment at press time.

A special election for the fifth Senate seat will be held Thursday, October 12. Anyone interested in working for the betterment of UAS and its students with the enthusiasm and commitment Wood and Graves express is encouraged to run for the position.

and they made the experience less painful than it could have been! Let me just say this, while I had a blast down there with those crazy people and felt good about being a Juneau resident (not just a visitor), this was a one time thing! I finally understand the term "chilled to the bone". I have been rained on forwards, backwards and sideways. I have stood in the rain for so long that my hands pruned up (as if I had been in the pool too long). I wore a turtle-neck in JULY! I now own a full and complete set of raingear (thanks to my husband, who had to meet me at the door with a towel and a hot cup of cocoa in the middle of the summer). I answered questions so preposterous that I had to actually say, "I am sorry, can you repeat that?" Questions like "What elevation are we at?" (Hello...sea level) or "Is the salmon bake another town in Juneau?" or how about "Do we wait for the rain to stop before we begin our tour?" Yeah right, I have been waiting for a week...trust me its not going stop! The cruise ships were amazing, but the people on them were definitely a different breed. Each ship had its own personality...as did the crews that worked them. All summer long in between hikes, work, school, rain, homework, climbing, rain, fishing, rain and the gym, I kept thinking that I really did not have a summer. Again, I am not complaining (maybe a little), the months flew by, and I looked forward to the return of my friends to campus and getting back to a normal (I know that really does not go with me) routine.

This summer for me there were no hot days on the deck, no cool wine, no sun setting (at least that I ever saw), no pool or beach on the weekends, and no convertible. But there was the glacier at dusk, hot tea in the evenings, fishing with my husband, and the occasional sunny day. I had a great time at Sandy Beach on the

Questions? Contact Thy Hua at (510) 273-0171 or e-mail: tthyhua@cns.gov

In Review

A witty look at a somber issue

By Amelia Jenkins
Whalesong Production Manager

Perseverance Theatre has never been known to pull a punch. This season looks like more of the same high quality of theater we have come to expect.

They begin with a startling and thought-provoking look at the way we deal with death. That's a broad topic. Let me be more specific. It explores how one woman (played by the amazing Anita Maynard-Losch, who is on stage for the full two hours of the play) experiences and explores her own slow, lonely death by cancer.

Death is an undignified experience in this culture, and *Wit* is not afraid to scold us for that. Our brave, intelligent heroine suffers numerous indignities and embarrassments at the hands of well-intentioned medical professionals. Someone seated behind me muttered that this portrays a negative image of modern hospitals. While I wish I agreed with this, my observations lead me to see these scenes as accurate. One can only hope that the recent Bill Moyers series ("On our own Terms" is a public radio and television series exploring death in modern society), town meetings, and commentary like *Wit* will begin to change that.

Heavy thought provocation aside, the most refreshing thing about this play is that it is funny. Our protagonist is a wonderfully literate and honest person. Her use of words and ability to twist them around had the audience laughing aloud on more than a few puns. She also possesses an intelligent person's ability to make fun of the intellectually impaired. Her unflagging wit and strength endeared her entirely to me. She becomes even more endeared to viewers when these qualities do flag, and she finds herself in the loneliest position she can reach. She is dying with no close friends. She finds herself depending on the tenderness of a nurse she previously felt little connection with.

From talking with others who have seen this play, I have noticed, pretty consistently, that people who have never experienced a death close to them had a hard time getting past "Whoa. That was sad." And it is sad. We meet a character. We like her. Then she dies. That's a hard thing to respond to with "No way! It was fun!" But, like anything frightening, death is easier dealt with if it's treated like the rest of life- with tenderness and silliness. I would never call it light-hearted, but I walked out of that theater with a lighter heart than I walked in with.

Perseverance Theatre has always done impressive things with few actors, props, or sets. Instead they rely on talented actors, directors, set designers, and writers. *Wit* is no exception. Despite its difficult and sometimes painful subject, the production succeeds at being an uplifting experience.

and a steamy look at Anais Nin

By M.J. Booth
Whalesong Advertising Manager

Interested in a steamy sex scene or two? Want to witness the enlightening and adventurous journey of self-discovery that two known, real, and acclaimed writers take together. Well then, *Henry and June* is the video for you! Actually, *Henry and June* is an excellent interpretation about the relationship between the authors, Henry Miller and Anais Nin. This movie is about the beginning of a long and tumultuous affair between two incredibly liberal minds that didn't seem to be able to leash their own extreme passions.

One of the main obstacles in their journey has to do with Henry's wife, June, who is alluring and unforgettable to both Henry and Anais. June quite manipulatively has both of them squirming for more mistreatment from her own tantalizing hands. Yet, in the heart of it all, Henry and Anais find each other at the same point on their paths of life and began to travel along together in chaotic harmony regardless of Anais' husband Hugo and Henry's wife, the enchanting June.

Anais Nin is played by Maria De Medeiros; you might remember her as the annoying girlfriend of Bruce Willis' character in the movie *Pulp Fiction*. Not knowing Anais Nin personally, I would have to say she did a nice job of capturing Nin's personality as it is portrayed (by Nin herself) in her diaries and books.

Fred Ward admirably plays the American expatriate, Henry Miller. His portrayal was pretty accurate and exactly what I pictured after reading some of Miller's works. Ward had his first major role as fellow escapee John Anglin in *Escape from Alcatraz* with Clint Eastwood. Others might remember him from the comical *Tremors* movies.

Finally, June the seductive and shrewd wife of Henry Miller is played by Uma Thurman. While her role is smaller, she definitely gets the point across. Thurman is also of *Pulp Fiction* fame among several other box office hits. It was quite refreshing to see her talents exposed in a different light.

Henry and June came out in 1990 and was directed by Philip Kaufman. It was also nominated for "Best Cinematography" in the 1991 Academy Awards, but was beat out by *Dances with Wolves*.

In my opinion, this is a great cliff note-esque type of movie, that is if you want to get a glimpse into the real life of some writers. This is a video to view on an uneventful Sunday evening with your significant other (or perhaps a prospective significant other). *Henry and June* is just a peek into their lives so, if time and personal interest piqued, I would also recommend some of Miller's and Nin's books as well. If you're wondering what style of writers they are, Anais Nin has been compared to D.H. Lawrence and Henry Miller, well lets just say he was writing just before the "Beat" generation and I think he could have possibly had a little influence there. Gotta go and find my remote!

Preview

Today: Municipal Elections are happening today. Get out and vote!

October 5: Mystery writer John Straley will hold a class, open to everyone, in HB 102 from 9:45 - 11:15 am. Discover your inner author!!

October 6: An Evening with Shakespeare at the SAC. This show is free to SAC members and \$5 for nonmembers. Lots of activities, starting at 4, 6, 7, 7:45, and 8 pm, with dinner from 5-7 pm.

October 11: 2000-2001 Film Festival at JDHS Auditorium. See the award-winning Danish movie (with English subtitles) *Mifune*, billed as "A delightful fresh comedy!" by the New York Post. Tickets sold at the door and are \$7 general admis-

sion, \$3 UAS students. Show starts at 7 pm.

October 13: Poetry Reading Series at the Egan Library at 7 pm

Also October 13: Latin Rhythms Dance at ANB Hall. Tickets are at the door, \$15 general admission, \$7 students. Grooving starts at 9 pm.

October 15: *Further*, a 16 mm film by Teton Gravity Research, is being shown at 5 and 7 pm at Centennial Hall. Tickets are \$8 adults and \$6 students, available at Hearside Books or at the door.

October 16: At the SAC, catch the movie *Purple Rose of Cairo* at noon, or the "Caribe" Latin band at 7 pm.

.. club continued from page 3

In this way, the campus would greatly reduce the amount of waste generated by people using new disposable cups every day.

Students Vita Wilson and Matt Wood have organized this year's Recycling Club, and Tish Griffin will serve as the staff advisor. All students, staff and faculty are invited to participate in the club's endeavors. Meetings will take place every other Wednesday at 3 p.m. The next meeting will be held on October 4 in the conference room downstairs in the Maurant building. Anyone interested in participating is welcome and encouraged to attend. With questions, comments, or for further information, please contact Vita Wilson at jsvmwm@uas.alaska.edu or Matt Wood at 790-9868. Come help to restore and protect our environment!

Horoscopes

By Tyler Bishop
Whalesong Staff

Aries (March 21-April 19)

It is a time for new beginnings. You see everything as a new awakening. Nothing has been lost and everything is to be gained. You are the life of any party.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your mind is rather ambitious when it comes to official business. You want to learn everything you can to better your self-being. Don't let your procrastination slow you down.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

You tend to be happier when you're closer to home.

Although travel and adventure await you, you'll never forget your roots.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

People find you a bit hard to talk to. You tend to focus on your needs rather than those of the people around you.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Your social life is very important to you. You tend to be the leader of the pack. Hold on to your cash, you have a habit of squandering it on frivolous items.

Virgo (August 23-Sept. 22)

You enjoy life and live to the fullest. You can enjoy any situation that you find yourself in.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Traveling awaits you. The new and exciting places that you see will last in your memory forever. You are a person bound by your word and will make many friends because of it.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Your charming skills are at a peak right now. If there is anything you want and haven't asked for it, now is the perfect time. No one can resist your charm.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Your adventure-driven spirit gives you a different outlook on life. It gives you a buoyant personality that all your friends enjoy.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Your ambitious nature makes you a natural leader. Your time organization is far more superb than those of the other twelve zodiacs. Your future earnings look bright.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You are a deeply sensitive person. Your intuitive nature attracts you to explore alternative beliefs. You enjoy a quiet atmosphere with plenty of leisure time.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Your mysterious personality makes it difficult for people to get close to you. You, however, have an insight into what other people are feeling.

Classifieds

Classified ads are free to all students. Place ads in Whalesong drop box (outside office downstairs Mourant Building), e-mail jywhale@uas.alaska.edu or call 465-6434

Congratulations, Melissa, on a wonderful job in *Wit!*

Lost or Found?
We have too much lost stuff! Come claim yours at the Student Services window, upstairs in the Novatney Building.

The Whalesong would like to congratulate staff member Amber Timothy on the birth of her son over the weekend. Best wishes!

Don't forget!!!
Register to vote now for the November state and national elections. Make your voice heard!

Whalesong seeks art student to draw a small whale tail logo.

USE PFD AS DOWN
FSBO: 2bd, 1ba mobile home. W/D includes new d/w, range, carpet+paint. Kodzoff 1, D-6. Asking \$27,500. Owner financed, %10 down. 790-1640

Ask Doc & Deb...

Dear WHALESONG readers:

Hi! and Welcome! to a new semester here at the Whalesong. I would like to introduce my all-knowing self. My name is Deb Auchery, but you can call me Deb. I am a new advice columnist for the Whalesong. I will be responding to the same questions as Dr. Love. Since this is the first issue there are only a couple questions, but we encourage any and all questions concerning heartaches and your general confusion in the relationship arena. If you have any questions you would like tackled, you can drop them in the Whalesong box across from the bookstore or e-mail us ATTN: Dr. Love and Deb Auchery at: jywhale@uas.alaska.edu

We can't wait to make a mockery of your pitiful love lives!

Dear Doc and Deb:
At a recent party I met this guy. I ended up getting pretty trashed and cheated on my boyfriend with this guy. I don't know what I want anymore. I'm so confused.

Doc says:
That's not very cool. What kind of girlfriend do you

think you are? In order for a relationship to work there must be trust involved. You just violated that trust. It sounds, however, that you want the trust back. What you have to do is be honest. Most guys, believe it or not, can be very understanding about these situations. If you want your relationship to work you must communicate.

Deb says:

First of all, how old are you?! Second, what are you doing going to a drinking party without your boyfriend? It sounds to me like you are too immature to be in a seriously committed relationship so you should dump both guys, at least as boyfriend material. You're in college! Maybe your most important commitment should be towards your studies. Nevertheless, you should go out LOTS and have fun with whom-ever, and do whatever, until situations like this are less confusing to you. P.S. I hope you used and always use proper condom protection!

Dear Doc and Deb:
I just moved up here and I don't think my long distance relationship will work. Other boys are already pursuing me. I want nothing to do with these other boys and want my long distance relationship to work. HELP!

Doc says:

It will work if both sides want it to work. But by now he has probably already cheated on you. Or you're just about to cheat on him. The moment you quit trying it falls through the floor. They can work but only a small percentage actually do. If love is there it will find a way.

Deb says:

Welcome to Juneau. What makes you think your long distance relationship won't work? Your question is rather vague; is it a question? What do you need help for? I mean, if you don't want to have anything to do with the "boys" who are pursuing you then what is the problem? Some things to consider perhaps would be: 1) the understanding you have with this boyfriend and the distance between the two of you, 2) how long you have been with the guy, and 3) how long you will be away from him. When you have these things a bit more sorted out, please write us again and ask a more specific question. But, in all reality, you sound too young to be tied down... maybe it wouldn't be such a bad thing to go out with some of these "boys" chasing after you. Nobody says you have to have sex with them, but if you do then obviously your long distance boyfriend simply isn't "the ONE." Get busy baby!